GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:97
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2001
ISI ACTIVITIES IN RAJASTHAN
CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE;T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `12,000 ISI agents operating in Rajasthan` appearing in `The Hindu` dated January 1,2001;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Government are aware that ISI agents are also active in various States of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof, state-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check their activities?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)&(b): Government has seen the news item appearing in `The Hindu` dated January 13, 2001. There are no specific reports to corroborate the details pertaining to the number of agents etc., mentioned in the news-item. However, the activities of intruders, suspicious persons and organisations are being monitored by Central/State security agencies.

(c),(d)&(e): The Government is aware that ISI of Pakistan is involved in aiding, abetting and supporting terrorism in various parts of the country especially in J&K and some of the North-Eastern States. Attempts are also on to revive militancy in Punjab.

Government have adopted a well-coordinated and multi-pronged approach for tackling the activities of ISI agents/militants which includes strengthening the border management, neutralising plans of ISI agents/militants by coordinated intelligence action, setting up of out-posts of security forces in vulnerable areas and modernisation and upgradation of police and security forces with advanced sophisticated weapons and communication system etc.

Central Government has also been sensitising the State Governments about the threat perseption and movement of ISI agents/activists. Periodic coordination meetings are also held with the State Governments for sharing the inputs from various quarters as well as for devising strategies to counter such activities. Various security agencies belonging to Union and States have been working together to check the activities of ISI agents. As a result of coordinated action, a number of ISI backed modules have been neutralised.